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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE  
REGION 9

Preliminary Inventory of the Records  
of the  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
(Record Group 49)

Compiled by Gilbert Dorame

1966

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## INTRODUCTION

The vast area known as public domain consists of lands acquired by the United States by cession, treaty or purchase and, at one time, comprised 442 million acres of land. This landed estate was acquired by cessions from the Thirteen Original States, 1781-1802; the Oregon Compromise, 1846; the Mexican Cession, 1848; the Texas Purchase, 1850; and the Gadsden Purchase, 1853. Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1867.

The early history of land management was a period of attempts to cope with difficult problems arising from the westward expansion. Overlapping and rival claims by the Original States created issues that threatened to divide the unity of the Federation. After the Revolutionary War, the boundaries of the new Republic were established by a treaty with Great Britain. The western boundaries of the Original States were not clearly defined and some of the States held claims to western lands. The Articles of Confederation had left the sale and disposition of western lands to the exclusive control of the states owning them. Some states opened land offices, made private grants, granted land bounties, or through other means, disposed of portions of lands they considered to be theirs.

By 1785, the government of the United States had assumed the role of proprietor of the public lands and became the trustee of the majority of the public domain. The dire need for Federal revenue prompted a policy of land sales and disposal, and land became a reve-





nue-producing commodity. Eventually, it was determined that there was a need for an administrative agency to administer the laws and acts relative to the management and disposal of the public domain. The initial measure was the establishment of a Board of Treasury, which consisted of three Commissioners. The Board was organized in New York City in 1785 and was authorized to manage sales, collect monies, issue patents and deeds to property owners, and to maintain records of land transactions.

In 1787, the Constitution of the United States was adopted and fundamental authority for public land and resource management was established. Article IV stated: "Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting territory or other property belonging to the United States....."

By Congressional Act of September 1789, the Treasury Department was created and assigned fiscal function as well as responsibility for the sale of public lands. Previous duties of the Commissioners of the Board of Treasury were transferred to the new department. Under the new arrangement, the Secretary of Treasury managed the sale of land; the Secretary of War managed the location of military bounty land warrants; and the Secretary of State issued patents for the land.

An Act of Congress approved April 25, 1812 (2 Stat. 717) provided for the establishment of the General Land Office within the Department of the Treasury. The new office was charged: "..... to superintend, execute and perform all such acts and things touching or respecting the public lands of the United States....."





Under this Act, the General Land Office was responsible for the issuance of land warrants and grants; scheduling of land sales at the various district land offices; collection of monies from lands sold and the maintenance of all land records and related data. A Commissioner was appointed and made responsible for the planning, administration, organization and operation of the General Land Office and all district land offices. The first Commissioner appointed was Edward Tiffin, a surveyor who was a former Governor of Ohio. Under his supervision, district land offices were located appropriately throughout the nation and through them began the systematic transfer —by grant, sale or other means—of the public lands. Each district office was staffed by a register of records, a receiver of monies, clerical assistants and when necessary, auctioneers and special clerks. Records of all land transactions were forwarded to the General Land Office for filing and subsequent preparation of patents and other necessary documents. Upon approval of the Commissioner, patents were issued and returned to the local district office for eventual delivery to the new property owners. By 1822, the 10th Anniversary of the General Land Office, 29 district land offices were operating in the field.

The first reorganization of the General Land Office was authorized by Act of July 4, 1836 (5 Stat. 101). Reorganization enlarged the operations of the office, but retained the existing system of subordinate field district land offices. Under the new plan, the surveying functions of the Office of the Surveyor General became an



added responsibility. Additionally, the internal structure was changed and three principal clerkships were established: the Principal Clerk of Private Land Claims, the Principal Clerk of Surveys, and the Principal Clerk of Public Lands. A recorder was authorized to certify all patents and documents, and the task of signing land patents was transferred from the President of the United States to the "Secretary to the President to Sign Land Patents". A long desired Solicitor was added to the staff and the office was taken from under the supervision of the Department of the Treasury and placed directly under the President.

In March of 1849 (9 Stat. 395), Congress created the Department of Interior for the purpose of attending to domestic needs and internal affairs of the nation. The General Land Offices were transferred from the Treasury Department to the newly created department. By this time a divisional administrative system had been established within the General Land Office and 10 separate and distinct main divisions were in operation. They were: public lands, land sales, preemption claims, distribution of lands, recording of patents, distribution of lands, military bounty lands, surveys, fiscal matters, and miscellaneous duties.

Eventually these divisions were enlarged to fifteen and were commonly referred to as "bureaus". They were given key letter designations and within the organization, they were referred to by symbols rather than name.





The scope of General Land Office activities were greatly expanded during the period 1845-1945. A steady series of Congressional Acts assigned the office added responsibilities and functions and created various special Commissions and Boards. However, the basic organizational structure remained unchanged except for the periodic formation of additional land offices, expansions and consolidation of various divisions, or the creation of new offices to keep pace with additional duties.

In July 1946, the General Land Office and the Grazing Service, in accordance with Sections 402 and 403 of the President's Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1946 (5 U.S.C. 133y-16) were consolidated into the Bureau of Land Management.

The functions of the new Bureau were: (1) to continue the supervision of the survey, management, protection and disposal of the public domain and the natural resources of the unappropriated public and certain acquired Federal lands; (2) to continue to administer grazing on the Federal range in order to protect the productivity of lands, permit the highest use of forage and at the same time retard soil erosion and provide watershed protection; (3) to conduct studies on the use of public lands; and (4) to classify these lands for agricultural grazing, mineral development and other uses.

The Bureau's activities are conducted by two primary organizations: Headquarters and Field. The Headquarters organization is headed by the Office of the Director. Subordinates are: Appeals





Officer, Information Office, and the Divisions of Operations, Staff Services, and Technical Programs. Field activities are conducted through State Offices, District Forestry Offices, District Grazing Offices, and Land Offices.

The records described in this inventory comprise those created primarily during the existence of the General Land Office and are a part of Record Group 49. They were created or received in land offices and other field activities in Los Angeles, California and Arizona. The Los Angeles records cover the period 1853-1961; the early records are only remnants of complete series and contain extensive gaps or are completely devoid of various series. Records of Arizona are primarily for the territorial period and cover 1860-1960. They are well organized, indexed in detail, and for the most part, contain complete documentation from the initiation of various offices until they were transferred, consolidated or abolished.

The majority of the records in this inventory are maintained in chronological or numerical sequence and these are the two main arrangement patterns by which the records are organized. Any filing deviations from the basic patterns of arrangement are apparent and can be easily understood.

Searches in the land entry registers can be facilitated if certain basic information can be obtained prior to the initiation of the search. Generally, the land office through which the entry was made, the name of the entryman, the approximate date of entry, and the legal description of the land entered are important for the success-



ful conclusion of a search. In some instances, not all this information is required because some of the records are indexed by name or contain so few entries that they can be easily searched. Most of the land entry registers have references to numbers that were issued for other transactions relevant to the same entry. Consequently, there is a close relationship within all the land entry records and in most cases, they should be perused concurrently.

Letters within the correspondence files contain filing symbols that correlate to a specific division within the headquarters hierarchy. Appendix 1 is a listing of the divisions and symbols assigned to them. By matching the symbols on the correspondence against the list, the general subject content as well as the creating or receiving division can be determined.

The records of the Los Angeles Land Office consist of 994 cubic feet; those for Arizona offices represent 536 cubic feet for a total of 1530 cubic feet. In this inventory, the records have been organized by the organizational units that created the records and a brief history of each "office of origin" precedes the series entries. The quantity for each series is expressed in terms of linear feet or inches.

Additional records of the Bureau of Land Management and its predecessors can be found in the National Archives under Record Group 49. Related records dated before 1849 documenting the supervision of the General Land Office and public land matters are in Record Group 56, General Records of the Department of the Treasury;





such records dated later than 1849 are in Record Group 48, Records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior. Records relating to the classification of the public domain and the management of mineral leases are in Record Group 57, Records of the U. S. Geological Survey. Records relating to forest lands are in Record Group 95, Records of the Forest Service; to Indian lands in Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; to national parks and monuments in Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service; to reclamation withdrawals in Record Group 115, Records of the Bureau of Reclamation; to railroad land grants in Record Group 193, Records of the Commissioner of Railroads; and to bounty land applications in Record Group 15, Records of the Veterans Administration.



## LAND OFFICE ACTIVITIES IN ARIZONA

In 1863, a bill creating the new Territory of Arizona was passed by the Congress and the Office of Surveyor General was established in Arizona. Prior to establishment as a Territory, Arizona had been a part of the New Mexico Surveying District but because of a pressing workload, the Surveyor General of New Mexico was unable to focus much attention on the needs of the new Territory. As a result, the survey needs of Arizona were relegated to a secondary position and settlers entering the new Territory became "squatters" on unsurveyed land.

Claimants of mineral and agricultural lands made best of the situation and remained on the public lands awaiting the eventual coming of the Surveyor General and the opportunity to make a legal claim upon their lands. They entered the lands and claimed interim title under various acts which recognized the preemptor or "squatter" and made him responsible for his land until such a time as the Land Office made a survey and caught up with his claim.

Miners banded together for protection and organized mining districts. These bodies created rules that governed mining activities within their district. They elected a secretary to record claims, sales, and transfer of claims within the district and in some cases they served as a court and executive body. Although they offered protection and certain rights, they lacked authority to give title to mineral lands within the public domain. There were some attempts to patent lands in Arizona prior to survey but they were denied by the General Land Office.





In 1862, President Lincoln signed the Homestead Act and in 1863, the bill which created the Territory of Arizona. These two Acts facilitated the manner in which public land could be claimed and as a result, Arizona was established as a separate surveying district, with its own Surveyor General. During 1863, offices of the Territorial Governor were established in Prescott. As directed by the Secretary of the Interior, the first Surveyor General's Office in Arizona was established at Tucson. Levi Bashford was the first appointee and in July of 1863, he opened his office for business. Due to the lack of funds, the office was unable to provide the services for which it had been intended and in July of 1864, the office was closed. The Surveyor General was relieved and Arizona was restored to the surveying district of New Mexico.

While under the New Mexico District, the Gila and Salt River base line and meridian was surveyed. In December 1866, a contract was let to establish the intersection of the base line and meridian and to survey ninety miles of exterior township lines. The Indian menace and lack of funds caused the work to be abandoned and the exterior lines were left uncompleted.

In March of 1867, the district was transferred from New Mexico and put under the jurisdiction of the California Surveyor General. By this time, the rich gold discoveries in central Arizona and the wealth of placer fields coupled with the irrigation of arid lands caused a clamor for townships surveys and the extension of the meridian and base lines established in 1866.



In 1870, Arizona was reestablished as a separate surveying district. The Office of the Surveyor General was reopened in Tucson and during February 1871, the Surveyor General initiated his first survey. Eventually the office was moved to Phoenix where it remained until abolished in July 1925.

To assist settlers in filing claims, district land offices were opened in various locations throughout the territory. Prescott, the first land office established, was opened in 1870; Florence in 1873; Tucson 1881; and Phoenix in 1905. At present, the Phoenix office serves the entire state of Arizona.

With consolidation of the General Land Office and the Grazing Service in 1946 to form the Bureau of Land Management, Arizona was placed on a two-state regional basis with New Mexico, and the regional office was located at Albuquerque. In May 1954, the Bureau of Land Management regions were abolished and state offices established. Arizona was administered out of Area Two at Salt Lake City with a state office under a state supervisor located in Phoenix. Since May 1961, when the area level was eliminated, the Arizona State Office at Phoenix, with a state director in charge, has functioned directly under the Bureau Director in Washington.





OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES SURVEYOR GENERAL  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

The offices of the Surveyor General were established within the General Land Office in 1836. Duties of the Surveyor General were to administer and supervise the surveying of public lands within his district. He received the applications for survey and re-survey and issued instructions for their completion. In addition, he was responsible for the examination of all field work relative to surveys and was the custodian of records that were created relative to specific surveys. As a disbursing officer, he collected money deposited for surveys and executed contracts with private surveyors, who performed practically all of the survey work prior to 1910. The commissioning of Deputy Mineral Surveyors was another of his functions as was the furnishing of general land information to the general public, business firms, and other government officials.

The first Office of Surveyor General for the Territory of Arizona was established in Tucson during the latter part of 1863. Levi Bashford opened the initial Surveyor General's Office in the territory and in doing so also opened the first field activity of the General Land Office in Arizona. In July 1864, he was forced to close the office because of the lack of congressional funds.

During 1864-1870, duties of the office were performed by the New Mexico and California Districts. In 1871, John Wasson, the second Surveyor General of the Territory, reestablished the office in Tucson. The office remained in Tucson for 31 continuous years and



during this period much of the work on private land claims, town-sites, Indian and military reservations was completed. In March of 1902, the office was moved to the Capitol Building in Phoenix. In 1910, the Field Survey Service was organized within the General Land Office and was given the responsibility for survey work in the field. The Surveyor General lost his autonomous nature and became a part of the Field Survey Service under the direction of the Supervisor of Surveys, Denver, Colorado. During the period 1910-1925, the office performed mainly paperwork and disbursing functions incidental to the field surveys. In July 1925, the Phoenix Office was terminated permanently.

The below named served as Surveyor Generals of Arizona:

1. Levi Bashford.....1863 - 1864
2. John Wagoner.....1871 - 1882
3. J. W. Robbins.....1882 - 1883  
(Died in Office)
4. Royal A. Johnson.....1883 - 1885
5. John Hise.....1885 - 1889
6. Royal A. Johnson.....1889 - 1893
7. Levi H. Manning.....1893 - 1896
8. George J. Roskrue.....1896 - 1897
9. George Christ.....1897 - 1901
10. Hugh H. Price.....1901 - 1903
11. Frank S. Ingalls.....1903 - 1916
12. Frank P. Trott.....1916 - 1924
13. Charles M. Donohoe.....1924 - 1925





OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL-PHOENIX

LETTERS RECEIVED. May 1860-June 1925. 93 vols. 31 ft.

1

Bound letters, memorandums, telegrams, endorsements, and other communications received from government officials, business firms, and the general public requesting or transmitting information pertaining to surveys and other matters under the authority of the Surveyor General. These letters contain information regarding private land grants and claims, Indian and military reservations; mines, individual land entries; desert, mineral, and timber lands; surveys; and other general land information. Included are applications for appointments of U. S. Deputy Surveyors and Mineral Surveyors. Some of the early records include abstracts of titles, deeds, and related legal records that document land claims and ownerships. Arranged in chronological order; each volume indexed by name of sender. The records 1860-1868 (Volume I, Pages 1-43) are copies of letters sent to the U. S. Surveyor General, New Mexico and San Francisco prior to the establishment of a Surveyor General in Arizona. They relate to matters affecting Arizona and are mainly from individuals making land claims or from surveyors in the field. They include some letters from the Commissioner and the Territorial Governor regarding the initial establishment of land office activities in Arizona.

LETTERS SENT. Jan. 1871-Nov. 1924. 96 vols. 10 ft.

2

Bound press copies of letters sent to the Commissioner, General



Land Office, U. S. Deputy Surveyors, Registers and Receivers, government officials, private firms and individuals. Mainly answers to requests for information, but they include general data on all classes of land entries, instructions to field survey personnel, information on personnel appointments, annual reports, fiscal data and other administrative information sent to the Commissioner. Volumes arranged chronologically and indexed within each volume by name of addressee. Letters to the Commissioner after January 1905 were filed and maintained separately and are described as Inventory Entry 5.

INDEX TO COMMISSIONERS LETTERS SENT AND RECEIVED. July 1893-Nov. 1906. 1 vol. 1 in.

3

Serves as an index guide to correspondence described in entries 4 and 5. The volume is a record of letters sent and received from the Commissioner, General Land Office. Its right-hand entries show the letters received and a brief resume of their content. The left-hand entries indicate action taken in response to the request and the date a reply was sent. A reference to the volume and page that contains the actual letter is a part of the entry. This index refers only to the serialized correspondence created after July 1893; prior to this, correspondence was numbered and indexed within individual volumes.

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER. Jan. 1870-June 1925. 67 vols. 23 ft.

4

Bound volumes consisting of letters, memorandum, and directives





received from the Commissioner, General Land Office. They document centralized control that was maintained over the organization, administration, and operation of Surveyor General's Office. Information in the letters relate to such matters as policy and procedures, appointments of Surveyor Generals and staff personnel, decisions and instructions on Spanish and Mexican Land Grants, surveys and matters relative to mineral lands, townsites, Indian and military reservations, forest reserves, railroad lands, and individual land entries. Included are copies of Presidential Proclamations, Executive Orders, Congressional Acts, and general instructions on office procedures, fiscal accounting and other matters subject to the review of the Commissioner. Arranged chronologically and each volume indexed by subject matter. Volumes 15 (July 1893) through 67 (June 1925) are serialized (1-11515).

LETTERS TO THE COMMISSIONER. Jan. 1905-May 1924. 26 vols. 3 ft. 5

Press copies of letters transmitting reports and information relative to the administration and field activities of the office. They contain information pertaining to the subjects described in the preceding entry. Arranged chronologically and indexed by subject. Letters prior to January 1905 are a part of Inventory Entry 2.

LETTER COPY BOOKS. Jan. 1871-May 1882. 2 vols. 3 in. 6

Handwritten copies of letters that were sent to the Commissioner, General Land Office. They duplicate press copies that are contained



in Inventory Entry 2.

MINERAL LETTERS RECEIVED. Aug. 1903-Apr. 1915. 20 vols. 4 ft. 7

These letters received primarily from the general public, business enterprises, or field survey personnel, deal exclusively with matters relevant to mineral surveys, claims, patents, and convey or transmit information pertaining to individual mineral entries. Arranged chronologically. Letters prior to Aug. 1903 are a part of the files described in Inventory Entry 1.

MINERAL LETTERS SENT. Mar. 1881-Nov. 1924. 80 vols. 8 ft. 8

Press copies of the answers sent in response to letters regarding mineral matters. They relate to the same subjects described above and are arranged chronologically and indexed by name of addressee.

PROCEEDING OF PRIVATE LAND CLAIM COURT. July 1891-Apr. 1904. 1 vol. 2 in. 9

The Court of Private Land Claims was organized by Congressional Act of March 1891; its purpose was to review and to adjudicate the validity of titles which originated under the Spanish and Mexican Governments. Sessions were held at Denver, Colorado and Santa Fe, New Mexico. This volume documents the proceedings involving Arizona claims and contains copies of judicial oaths of office, rules of the Court, minutes of daily court proceedings and written copies of legal





documents submitted during case hearings. Arranged chronologically and indexed by name of claim.

REGISTER OF DOCUMENTS FILED IN THE U. S. COURT OF PRIVATE LAND CLAIMS. Feb. 1892-June 1899. 1 vol. 1 in.

10

A record of documents filed by participants in Land Grant Hearings. Indicates documents filed, the numbers assigned, and the names of the plaintiffs, defendants, attorneys, and titles involved in the proceedings. Arranged chronologically.

LETTER COPY BOOK, PRIVATE LAND CLAIMS. Sept. 1879-June 1882. 1 vol. 1 in.

11

Handwritten copies of letters sent by the Surveyor General relating to the examination of title to Private Land Claims. They are mainly to the Commissioner, General Land Office, and concern the progress being made on establishing land titles and the status of survey work on private grants. Arranged chronologically.

REGISTER OF DECLARATION OF RESIDENCE. Apr. 1892-ca. 1900. 1/2 in.

12

Under the Congressional Act of March 1891, settlers were required to formalize claims on land that had been in continuous family possession for at least twenty years. This register contains copies of the certifications attesting land ownership under the Act and the resulting requests for surveys. Included is a handwritten copy of the Public Notice of the Act and abstracts from its provisions. Rec-



ords are contained in Volume II of the records described in Inventory Entry 6.

RECORD OF APPOINTMENTS. ca. 1875. 2 vols. 1/2 in. 13

Documents appointments of U. S. Deputy Surveyors and U. S. Mineral Surveyors. Contains name and address of appointee, date of acceptance, when commissioned, and general information regarding tenure and termination. Arranged alphabetically by surname.

RECORD OF COMMISSIONS. ca. 1875. 2 vols. 1/2 in. 14

Handwritten copies of Commissions granted to U. S. Deputy Surveyors and U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyors, showing when oath of office was administered, appointing official, date letter of acceptance was received and posted. Arranged in commission number order and indexed by surname.

PERFORMANCE RECORD OF U. S. DEPUTY MINERAL SURVEYORS. Mar. 1904-Jan. 1913. 1 vol. 1 in. 15

Record maintained of work performed by individual Mineral Surveyors. It shows the date they were appointed, when bonded, and general information regarding their employment. Indicates surveys assigned, when field notes completed, and acceptance dates of surveys performed. Chronological arrangement and indexed by surname.

ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUE MERIDIANS. 1881; 1893; 1902. 1/4 in. 16





Original field notes and reports of the establishment of True Meridians in Tombstone, January 19, 1881; Tucson, March 7, 1893; Phoenix, October 22, 1902. These contain descriptive details of the observations, triangulations, bearings, and markers that were posted to delineate the meridians. A field sketch of the Phoenix Meridian is part of that report.

RECORD OF THE TESTING OF SURVEY INSTRUMENTS. 1880-1905. 1 vol.  
1/2 in.

17

Certifications by the Surveyor General that survey instruments have been examined, set and adjusted to coincide with the alignment of established meridians. These entries contain handwritten copies of the field notes relating to the establishment of meridians and duplicate the reports described above. Entries arranged chronologically.

SURVEY REGISTER. ca. 1880. 1 vol. 1 in.

18

This is a register that apparently was kept to record the assignment and progress of surveys for Indian and military reservations, private land claims, townsites, forest and timber reserves, base lines, meridians, and the Casa Grande Ruins Reservation. Contains field notes relevant to the surveys and indicates the dates they were made and by whom. Indexed by type of survey.

REGISTER OF CONTRACTS FOR SURVEY OF PUBLIC LANDS. May 1871-Oct. 1906.



1 vol. 1-1/2 in.

19

A record of contracts that were let for the survey of public lands. It shows to whom the contracts were assigned, date and number of contract, area to be surveyed, cost and remarks referring to progress and status of contract. Chronologically arranged by contract number (1-123).

TOWNSHIP SURVEYS. 1873-ca. 1896. 2 ft.

20

Oversize 18" x 22" sheets containing descriptions of the exterior and interior corners on sections, quarter sections and meridian lines within individual townships. They include information as to township boundaries, markers, character of land between sections and remarks as to the quality of soil and timber. Each sheet relates to a specific township and range, and they are unarranged.

ORDERS FOR HOMESTEAD SURVEYS. Jan. 1909-Dec. 1925. 4 vols. 5 in.

21

Transfer copies of original survey orders from Surveyor General to field surveyors. They authorize initiation of various surveys and convey special instructions and detailed information regarding field work on specific surveys. Arranged numerically (37-646).

ORDERS FOR MINERAL SURVEYS. July 1887-Jan. 1920. 6 vols. 8 in. 22

Record content identical to that described above. Arranged numerically (1261-3656).





HOMESTEAD ENTRY SURVEYS IN NATIONAL FORESTS. 1909-1949. 2 vols.  
5 in. 23

Chronology of individual Homestead Entry Surveys made on National Forest Lands. Designates where and within what forest and county entry was made, name of entryman, description of tract entered, date patent was issued, and general information relating to the survey and the contract. Arranged by survey number and indexed by name of entryman (37-679).

FIELD NOTES OF HOMESTEAD ENTRY SURVEYS MADE ON FOREST RESERVES.  
1909-1923. 7 in. 24

Detailed field notes and blueprints of maps depicting boundaries and area of surveys made for homesteaders on forest lands. Contain some surveys made for railroad right-of-ways. Arranged numerically (390-646).

LIST OF MINERAL DISTRICTS AND MINE LOCATIONS. ca. 1885. 1 vol.  
1/2 in. 25

Indicates locations of mines and mining districts within established townships. Incidental information regarding survey contract numbers and other data for individual mines are included. Arranged and indexed by township.

REGISTER OF MINING & MILLSITE CLAIMS. 1871-1902. 4 vols. 6 in. 26

A listing of claims that were made. Entries show name of claim and claimants, county and mineral district in which located, date



entered and fees paid, area and character of mine, date of survey, and when claim transmitted for approval of Commissioner. Two volumes have narrative information consisting of a chronology of actions taken on individual claims. Arranged chronologically and indexed by name of claim.

RECORD OF MINING & MILLSITE SURVEYS. May 1893-June 1950. 8 vols. 2 ft. 27

Documents the execution of surveys. Gives the name of the claim surveyed, the claimants, name of surveyor, district and location of mine, and other general field information regarding the survey and issuance of patent. Each volume arranged by survey number and indexed by name of mine or millsite.

REGISTER OF DEPOSITS FOR MINERAL SURVEYS. July 1871-Oct. 1907. 2 vols. 3 in. 28

Record of monies received for the initiation of mineral surveys. Indicates name of depositor, cash deposit certificate number, names of surveyors, date and amount deposited, name and location of mine, date and number of survey approval and general data relative to the lode and area. Arranged chronologically and indexed alphabetically by name of claim.

FISCAL RECORDS. 1871-1915. 13 vols. 2-1/2 ft. 29

These are a variety of records that document the expenditure and



receipt of public monies. They contain information relative to salaries paid to the Surveyor General, surveyors and clerical personnel and show the distribution of appropriations received and monies deposited and credited to individual survey contracts.





FIELD SURVEY SERVICE  
OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR OF SURVEYS  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

In 1910, the policy of letting private contracts for surveys on public lands was abolished and the Field Survey Service of the General Land Office was established to perform survey work. The Service was charged with the responsibility of initiating policy and formulating technical procedures and practices to be used in cadastral surveys and resurveys. The organization was headed by a Supervisor of Surveys, with headquarters in Washington, D. C.; an Associate Supervisor of Surveys in Denver, Colorado; and nine Assistant Supervisors of Survey who were in charge of specific districts.

Within their respective districts, the Assistant Supervisors were in charge of all field operations connected with public survey activities. They hired personnel, provided equipment, prepared the necessary assignment instruction, assisted the general public, and directed survey groups operating in the field.

The office in Phoenix was established in November of 1913 and was in charge of survey work in Arizona and California. It remained in operation until June 1925 when its functions were absorbed by the Public Survey Office.

GROUP SURVEY CORRESPONDENCE. 1914-ca. 1924. 11 ft.

30

Correspondence exchanged between the Assistant Supervisor of Surveys and personnel of field survey groups working in Arizona and California. It consists of letters, reports, special instructions,



assignments, blueprint diagrams, telegrams, and other related data documenting the management, work, and activities of field survey groups. Consists of two sets of files, one for Arizona, the other for California. Arranged numerically by field group designation. Indexed by field groups and names of individual group members are provided.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND SENT. 1914-1925. 2 ft. 31

Exchange of information with supervisors of field parties and other survey personnel relating to survey work and its progress. There is also correspondence with the general public, business firms, and various government offices regarding surveys and routine administrative matters. Arranged by year.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH SURVEYOR GENERAL OF CALIFORNIA. 1913-1924.  
1 ft. 32

This relates mainly to survey methods and procedures, internal administrative affairs or transmits information submitted in regards to specific surveys. Included are various types of administrative reports, Annual Instructions and miscellaneous survey data exchanged between the offices. Arranged chronologically.

PERSONNEL CORRESPONDENCE. 1916-1925. 1-1/2 ft. 33

Incoming and outgoing letters pertaining to the employment, transfer, promotion, and removal of personnel. Included are letters of





application and recommendation, authorities affecting pay and other matters related to personnel administration. Arranged by year.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH COMMISSIONER. 1912-1925. 3 in.

34

Copies of letters sent and some letters received from the Commissioner, General Land Office. These contain instructions and decisions, data relative to a wide range of administrative matters and an exchange of information on specific surveys. Unarranged.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH SUPERVISOR OF SURVEYS. 1914-1925. 2-1/2 ft.

35

Pertains to the administration of the field office, its organization and direction provided for its work programs. These relate to a variety of transactions and activities administered by the Associate Supervisor of Surveys, Denver, Colorado. Included are instructions, reports, information on subordinate units, copies of directives, financial statements, personnel matters, and other data relating to the management of the survey program. Consists of letters received and copies of those sent. Arranged chronologically.

SPECIAL SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS. ca. 1923-ca. 1925. 1 ft.

36

Copies of instructions issued by the Surveyor General, California, directing the initiation of specific surveys. These contain the authority, appropriation, character of survey, methods and procedures and other data relative to the survey. They include blue-



print diagrams depicting the work to be performed. Most of these appear to be for work performed by field parties in California and are arranged numerically by field group designation.

SURVEY ASSIGNMENTS. ca. 1916-1928. 7 in.

37

Original copies of assignments and directions given to Arizona and California field groups commanded by the Assistant Supervisor of Surveys. These indicate the survey to be performed and the instrumental and transportation equipment to be used. Included are some correspondence and diagrams that were exchanged in regards to specific surveys. Related records are described by Inventory Entry 1 (Group Survey Files). Arranged numerically by field group designation.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS. Aug. 1910-July 1913. 1 vol. 1 in.

38

Press copies of Special Instructions, Circulars, or Supplemental Instructions issued for survey personnel by the Surveyor General or the Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, Phoenix, Arizona. These refer chiefly to the technical procedures, terminology, and methods that are to be followed in making a survey. Some transmit detailed instructions and information relevant to surveys in progress, or in the process of execution. Included are some Cost Reports detailing work performed and money expended by individual field groups. Arranged chronologically and indexed by type of instruction.



PUBLIC SURVEY OFFICE  
OFFICE OF DISTRICT CADASTRAL ENGINEER  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

In July 1925, the Phoenix Offices of the Surveyor General and Assistant Supervisor of Surveys were abolished and their duties assigned to the Public Survey Office. This office remained under the supervision of the Supervisor of Survey, Denver, Colorado and was headed by a District Cadastral Engineer. The office located in Phoenix had jurisdiction over all survey activities in Arizona and California. In 1932, the Public Survey Office in San Francisco was transferred to Glendale, California, and the Glendale Office replaced the Phoenix Office as district headquarters. The Phoenix Office continued in operation under the direction of an Office Cadastral Engineer and remained as part of the District 3 Field Organization.

GENERAL LETTERS SENT. July 1925-June 1947. 22 vols. 3 ft. 39

Bound typewritten copies of letters sent by the Office Cadastral Engineer survey personnel, business firms, government officials, and the general public. These deal with all the activities of the office but chiefly they are replies to requests for survey information or convey instructions and general information to field survey personnel. Arranged chronologically and each volume indexed by addressee.

LETTERS SENT TO COMMISSIONER. July 1925-Dec. 1940. 3 vols. 4 in. 40

Bound copies of letters sent in reply to inquiries regarding





specific surveys. Most of these document transmittals of plats, diagrams and maps or contain technical information pertinent to techniques used on surveys, resurveys, and corrections. They include some copies of blueprint diagrams and field notes. Arranged chronologically.

LETTERS SENT TO DISTRICT CADASTRAL ENGINEER. Aug. 1932-Dec. 1942.  
3 vols. 2 in.

41

Carbon copies of letters sent to the District Cadastral Engineer, Glendale, California relating to the following subjects: accounts, allotments of funds, personnel administration, lists, survey contracts, application for surveys, employees, equipment, property, supplies, miscellaneous reports, lead and mineral surveys, and detailed information on specific surveys being performed by various survey groups. Arranged chronologically; indexed within each volume by subject.

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM SUPERVISOR OF SURVEYS. July 1925-Dec. 1942.  
13 vols. 2 ft.

42

Incoming letters, circulars, directives, and memorandums received from the Office of Supervisor of Surveys, Denver, Colorado. These relate to policy, procedure, organization, and administration of the field survey program and contain instructions relative to specific surveys and the administrative activities of the office. Arranged chronologically; indexed by subject within each volume.



LETTERS SENT TO SUPERVISOR OF SURVEYS. 1928-1940. 3 vols. 2 in. 43

These are copies of letters that were sent by the District Cadastral Engineer, from district headquarters in Phoenix, and later in Glendale, California, to the Supervisor of Surveys in Denver, Colorado. This set of records consists of "information copies" on Arizona matters and were maintained by the Public Survey Office in Phoenix. They deal with the same subjects described in the above entry. Included are copies of the letters sent by the Office Cadastral Engineer in Phoenix. Arranged chronologically; each volume indexed by subject.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED. May 1927-Dec. 1947. 7 ft. 44

Letters from governmental personnel, local officials, private persons and companies, survey employees, and others concerning activities and functions performed by the office. These relate mainly to technical matters arising from survey work but include requests for general information, letters of applications for survey work, and letters from field survey personnel requesting assistance and instructions on specific surveys. Arranged chronologically and indexed by name of sender.

CORRESPONDENCE, CIVIL AND PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION. 1933-1935. 3 in. 45

Letters and other data received and sent regarding survey projects sponsored by the Civil and Public Works Administration. These





relate mainly to the hiring and furnishing of personnel to engage in survey work. Included are some directives and circulars relative to the program and correspondence with local Civil Works Boards. Arranged by subject or office of origin. A subject guide is provided with the records.

MINERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED. Oct. 1928-Dec. 1932. 4 in. 46

Mainly from the general public and business firms seeking general and technical information regarding surveys being conducted for mineral entries and claims. Included is information concerning the appointment and bonding of U. S. Mineral Surveyors. Arranged chronologically and indexed by name of sender.

MINERAL CORRESPONDENCE SENT. July 1925-June 1932. 5 vols. 2 in. 47

Copies of letters that were sent in response to requests for information regarding surveys and mineral entries. They include instructions to U. S. Mineral Surveyors and field personnel on specific surveys and copies of blueprint diagrams transmitted in response to requests. Arranged chronologically; indexed by name of addressee.



OFFICES OF THE REGISTER AND RECEIVER  
IN ARIZONA

The Offices of the Register and Receiver were responsible for providing information regarding unoccupied lands, furnishing plats, receiving and examining applications to enter lands, administering oaths, and issuing the certificates upon which land patents were based. Additionally, these offices conducted hearings in contested cases, rendered decisions (subject to the approval of the Commissioner) and maintained all records and papers relevant to land matters within its jurisdiction.

The officials who administered jointly the business of the office were known as the Register and Receiver. They were appointed by the President of the United States but were under the direct supervision of the Commissioner, General Land Office, Washington, D. C. The Register was responsible for the administration and paper-work functions of the office; the Receiver was a fiscal officer who primarily collected monies earned from land sales and other services.

The offices located in Arizona never numbered more than two at any one time. The office in Prescott was established first and began its operation in 1870. This office served the central area of Arizona and remained in continuous operation until 1905 when it was abolished and its duties absorbed by the Phoenix Office which was established in 1905.

To serve the southern portion of Arizona, an office was opened in Florence in June of 1873. By Executive Order dated April 22, 1881,



the office was abolished and its functions transferred to the newly created Tucson Office. The Tucson Office opened on July 12, 1881 and continued serving the same district as its predecessor. It remained in continual operation until September 1905, when it was abolished and its duties transferred to the office established in Phoenix. After 1905 the Phoenix Office remained as the only district land office in Arizona and at present is still in operation.

During the periods of transition, the records originated by the various offices were transferred to their successors. As a result, the entry numbering sequences initiated by Florence were continued at Tucson during its existence. Records created by the Phoenix Office bear their own numbering sequence even though this office inherited the records created by its predecessor. For these reasons, some of the ledger-records contain entries instigated by more than one office.

The records described in this section have been inventoried by series to reflect the era in which they were originated. However, to facilitate searching, they are cross-indexed to indicate their location within the appropriate ledgers or entry books.

Records that could not be associated with one particular office, because they are overlapping or represent continuous type actions, have been inventoried by "office of custody" rather than by "office of origin".





OFFICE OF THE REGISTER AND RECEIVER  
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

COMMISSIONER'S LETTERS RECEIVED. Aug. 1887-Dec. 1904. 8 ft. 48

Letters and memorandums received from the Commissioner, General Land Office, documenting administrative guidance and decisions that were made in regard to land matters under the jurisdiction of the field office. Information in the letters relates to administration and operation of the office, decisions and instructions relative to individual land entries and copies of regulations affecting the sale and distribution of public lands. Arranged chronologically.

REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. Nov. 1881-Dec. 1894; July 1896-Sept. 1905. 2 vols. 3 in. 49

Listing of entries made under Homestead Act of 1862. Shows name of entryman and residence, application number, date filed, description of land entered, number of acres claimed, fees and commissions paid, and final land office action. Arranged by application number (1-1880).

REGISTER OF FINAL HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATES. Mar. 1877-Sept. 1905. 2 vols. 3 in. 50

Documents issuance of Final Homestead Certificates for lands entered under Homestead Act of 1862. Shows when and to whom certificates were issued, lands entered, price per acre, original Homestead Entry Number and date patent was issued. Arranged in certificate number order (1-853).



REGISTER OF ENTRIES ON MINERAL LANDS. Apr. 1872-Sept. 1905. 1  
vol. 1/2 in.

51

Documents land entries made for mining purposes. Each entry shows the name and residence of the claimant, the application number assigned, date of filing, name of mine, district and county in which mine located, description of land claimed, purchase price, and remarks relating to the issuance of patent. Arranged in application number order (1-667) and indexed by name of mine.

REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR MINING PATENTS. June 1871-July 1905.  
1 vol. 1 in.

52

Abstracts of applications received for mining patents. Shows date of filing, application number, name and address of applicant, name of mine, district and county in which located, description of land and area, and date patent was issued. Arranged chronologically. Indexed by name of mine.

ABSTRACT OF DESERT LANDS ENTERED. May 1877-Sept. 1905. 1 vol.  
3/4 in.

53

Documents entries made under the Desert Land Act of 1877. Each entry shows name and residence of entryman, when entry was made, tracts entered, number of acres claimed, and number of entry certificate. Arranged by certificate number (1-159).

ABSTRACT OF FINAL DESERT LAND CERTIFICATES. Jan. 1887-Aug. 1905.  
1 vol. 1/4 in.

54

Documents issuance of Desert Land Certificates for entries made





under the Desert Land Act of 1877. Gives description of lands entered, name of entryman, quantity and price per acre, number of final certificate, date of patent, and remarks relative to relinquishments and cancellations. Arranged in certificate number order (1-31).

TIMBER-CULTURE ENTRIES. July 1883-Jan. 1891. 1 vol. 1/2 in. 55

Register of entries made under the Timber-Culture Act of 1873. Has name of applicant, description of land entered, number of application, and date entry was made. Application number order (1-31).

MONTHLY ABSTRACT OF MILITARY LAND WARRANTS. ca. 1893. 2 vols. 1/4 in. 56

Consists of six entries that show lands claimed under Bounty Land Warrant Acts of 1847 and 1855. Shown are the names of warrant holders, number of warrant, when dated, description of land claimed, by whom located, and when patented. Chronological arrangement.

RECEIVERS ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS FROM DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. Jan. 1885-Jan. 1886. 1 vol. 1/4 in. 57

Abstract of receipts issued for monies received as filing fees for Declaratory Statements. Shows number of receipt and to whom issued. Entries in receipt number order (1574-1775).

ABSTRACT OF PUBLIC LANDS SOLD. May 1871-Feb. 1897. 1 vol. 2 in. 58

Record of public land sales to individuals, companies, and



trustees. Entries show date of sale, name and address of purchaser, tract purchased, number of acres and price, total amount paid, and notations relating to receipt of patent. Arranged by date of sale.

ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENT. Dec. 1870-Mar. 1902. 1 vol.  
2 in.

59

Listing of entries made under pre-emption rights on lands which were not offered for public sale. Gives name of entryman, description of land entered, date of settlement, number of statement, date filed, and information regarding cancellations, relinquishments, and patents. Arranged in numerical order (1-2297). Contains Phoenix entries (1-7), Jan. 1907-Jan. 1908.

LAND APPRAISAL REPORT OF ABANDONED MILITARY RESERVATION. 1897.  
1/4 in.

60

Report of commissioners appointed to appraise lands at Camp Verde, an abandoned military reservation. Gives description of lots, number of acres, character of land, value per acre, and total appraised price. Entries arranged by section number and lot number thereunder.

INDIAN LAND ALLOTMENTS. June 1897. 1/4 in.

61

Listing of lands allotted to non-reservation Indians in the Moencopia Wash, Coconino County under the Allotment Act of 1887. Entries give detailed description of lands allotted, number of acres, applicant's name, date of application, and tribal affiliation. Arranged by



allotment number (1-12).

ABSTRACT OF PUBLIC LAND SOLD. Apr. 1897-Sept. 1905. 1 vol. 1 in. 62

Documents public lands purchased by individuals, companies, and trustees. Shows name of purchaser, certificate number assigned, description and amount of land purchased, price per acre, and annotations pertaining to acts under which lands were sold and patented. Some entries relate to townsite purchases made by Probate Judges acting in behalf of town occupants. Arranged in certificate number order (568-716).

ABSTRACT OF LOCATIONS MADE WITH VALENTINE AND WYANDOTTE SCRIP. ca. 1905. 1 vol. 1/4 in. 63

Gives name of entryman, date of filing, detailed description of land entered, and remarks relating to entry. Numerical order (1-8).

OFFICE OF THE REGISTER AND RECEIVER  
FLORENCE, ARIZONA

COMMISSIONER'S LETTERS RECEIVED. Jan. 1881-Dec. 1881. 4 in. 64

Letters and memorandums received from the Commissioner, General Land Office, documenting administrative guidance and decisions made in regard to land matters under the jurisdiction of the field office. Information in the letters relates to administration and operation of the office, decisions and instructions relative to individual land entries, regulations and procedures affecting the sale and dis-





tribution of public lands. Arranged chronologically.

REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. Jan. 1873-June 1881. 1 vol. 1/4 in. 65

Listing of entries made under Homestead Act of 1862. Shows name of entryman and residence, application number, date filed, description of land entered, number of acres claimed, fees and commission paid, and final land office action. Arranged by application number order (1-139). Records are a part of Volume I, Inventory Entry 71.

REGISTER OF FINAL HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATES. June 1873-June 1881. 1 vol. 1/2 in. 66

Documents issuance of Final Homestead Certificates for lands entered under Homestead Act of 1862. Indicates when and to whom certificates were issued, lands entered, price paid per acre, original Homestead entry number, and date patent was issued. Arranged in certificate number order (1-22). Records are a part of Volume I of Inventory Entry 72.

REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR MINING PATENTS. Aug. 1873-June 1881. 1 vol. 1/4 in. 67

Shows date of filing, application number, name and address of applicant, name of mine, district and county in which located, description of land area, and date patent was issued. Arranged by application number (1-57). Indexed by name of mine. Records are contained in Volume I of Inventory Entry 74.



ABSTRACT OF PUBLIC LANDS SOLD. June 1873-June 1881. 1 vol. 1/4 in. 68

Documents public lands purchased by individuals, companies or trustees. Shows name of purchaser, certificate number assigned, description and amount of land purchased, price per acre, and annotations pertaining to acts under which lands were sold and patented. Some entries relate to townsite purchases made by Probate Judges acting in behalf of town occupants. Arranged in certificate number order (1-195). Records are part of the volume described in Inventory Entry 79.

ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. Aug. 1873-Aug. 1881. 1 vol. 1/2 in. 69

Listing of pre-emption entries made on lands which were not offered at public sale. Gives name of entryman, description of land entered, date of settlement, statement number assigned, date filed, and information regarding cancellations, relinquishments, and patents. Arranged numerically (1-790). Records contained in the volume described by Inventory Entry 80.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTER AND RECEIVER  
TUCSON, ARIZONA

COMMISSIONER'S LETTERS RECEIVED. July 1881-June 1887; Jan. 1888-Dec. 1888; Jan. 1890-Dec. 1893; Mar. 1894-Oct. 1905. 21 ft. 70

Letters and memorandums received from the Commissioner, General Land Office, documenting administrative guidance and the decisions





made in regard to land matters under the jurisdiction of the field office. Information in the letters relates to administration and operation of the office, decisions and instructions relative to individual land entries, regulations and procedures affecting the sale and distribution of public lands. Arranged chronologically.

REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. July 1881-Sept. 1905. 3 vols. 5 in. 71

Listing of entries made under Homestead Act of 1862. Shows name of entryman and residence, application number, date filed, description of land entered, number of acres claimed, fees and commission paid, and final land office action. Arranged in application number order (140-5332). Applications 4634-5332, July 1903-Sept. 1905, are contained in Volume I of Inventory Entry 90. Volume I of this series contains Florence entries 1-139, Jan. 1873-June 1881.

REGISTER OF FINAL HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATES. July 1881-Sept. 1905. 2 vols. 3 in. 72

Documents issuance of Final Homestead Certificates for lands entered under Homestead Act of 1862. Shows when and to whom certificates were issued, land entered, price paid per acre, original Homestead entry number, and date patent was issued. Arranged in certificate number order (23-1472). For entries 1001-1472, Jan. 1900-Sept. 1905, see Inventory Entry 91. Volume I of this series contains Florence records 1-22, June 1873-June 1881.



REGISTER OF MINING LANDS ENTERED. Aug. 1892-Sept. 1905. 1 vol.  
2 in.

73

Each entry shows the name and residence of the claimant, the certificate number assigned, date of filing, name of mine, district and county in which located, description of land claimed, purchase price, and remarks relating to the issuance of patent. Certificate number order (505-894) and indexed by name of mine.

REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR MINING PATENTS. July 1881-Sept. 1905.  
3 vols. 5 in.

74

Shows date of filing, application number, name and address of applicant, name of mine, district and county in which located, description of land and date patent was issued. Arranged chronologically in application number order (58-1055). Indexed by name of mine. Volume I contains Florence application numbers 1-57.

TIMBER-CULTURE ENTRIES. Jan. 1889-Aug. 1891. 1 vol. 1 in.

75

Register of entries made under the Timber-Culture Act of 1873. Has name of applicant, description of land entered, date and number of application. Arranged in application number order (792-1024).

REGISTER OF FINAL TIMBER-CULTURE CERTIFICATES. Dec. 1884-May 1903.  
1 vol. 1 in.

76

Documents issuance of Final Certificates under Timber-Culture Act of 1873. Entries show name and residence of entryman, number assigned to original entry application, tracts entered, and date



patent was received. Entries in certificate number order (1-46).

ABSTRACT OF FINAL DESERT LAND CERTIFICATE. Nov. 1879-Aug. 1905.

1 vol. 2 in.

77

Documents final payment and issuance of Desert Land Certificates for entries made under the Desert Land Act of 1877. Gives description of lands entered, name of entryman, quantity and price per acre, number of final certificate, date of patent, and remarks relative to relinquishments and cancellations. Arranged in certificate number order (1-737). For entry numbers 574-737, Apr. 1897-Aug. 1905, see Inventory Entry 97.

ABSTRACT OF DESERT LANDS ENTERED. Jan. 1886-July 1905. 5 vols.

6 in.

78

Documents entries made under the Desert Land Act of 1877. Each entry shows name and residence of entryman, when entry was made, tracts entered, number of acres claimed, and number of entry certificates. Arranged chronologically by certificate number (548-3321). For entries 2742-3321, Mar. 1896-July 1905, see Inventory Entry 96.

ABSTRACT OF PUBLIC LANDS SOLD. Aug. 1881-Sept. 1905. 2 vols. 4 in.

79

Listing of public lands purchased by individuals, companies, and trustees. Shows name of purchaser and residence, certificate number issued, tracts purchased, number of acres and price per acre, annotations relative to acts under which land was sold and dates when





patents were received. Has information relative to lands sold on the Fort Lowell, Camp Crittenden, Camp Goodwin, Camp Grant, and Fort McDowell Military Reservations. Certificates 213, 214, 1334, 1449, and 1703 document townsites purchased by Probate Judges acting in behalf of occupants of Tubac, Globe, Bisbee, and Nogales respectively. Arranged in certificate number order (196-1751). For entries 1113-1751, Jan. 1895-Sept. 1905, see Inventory Entry 98. Volume I of this series contains Florence entries 1-195.

ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENT. Oct. 1881-Mar. 1904. 1 vol. 1 in.

80

Listing of pre-emption entries made on lands not offered at public sale. Gives name of entryman, description of land entered, date of settlement, number and date settlement filed, and information regarding cancellations, relinquishments, and patents. Arranged chronologically in numerical order (791-2734). Contains Florence entries 1-790 and Phoenix 1-4.

RECORD OF PATENTS DELIVERED. Mar. 1885-Sept. 1905. 1 vol. 1 in. 81

List of patents issued to individuals. Has name of patentee, date of patent, where recorded, date patent delivered, address and name of recipient. Alphabetically indexed in front of volume.

SCHEDULE OF INDIAN LAND ALLOTMENTS. 1890-1891. 1 vol. 1/4 in. 82

Documents land allotments made under the Indian Allotment Act of



1887. Describes lands allotted to Indians residing on the Papago and San Xavier Reservations. Gives name of allottee, age, number of application, description of land, and number of acres allotted each family member. Contains information regarding allotments of land for "Old San Xavier Catholic Church and School". Arranged by application number order (1-291).

REGISTER OF LOCATIONS MADE WITH VALENTINE AND SIOUX HALF-BREED SCRIP.  
1881-1893. 1/8 in. 83

Gives name of entryman, date of filing, detailed description of land entered, and other information relevant to entry. Numerical order...five entries only. Records contained in volume described in Inventory Entry 100.

DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. Apr. 1884-Apr. 1887. 3 in. 84

Statements of intention to claim lands under the Pre-emption Act of 1841. Shows name of entryman, description of land entered, and total number of acres being claimed. Included are supplementary documents and affidavits supporting the claim.

APPRAISAL REPORT-FORT YUMA. Jan. 1901. 1/8 in. 85

Report of Commissioners appointed to appraise lands and improvements at Fort Yuma, Arizona, abandoned military reservation. Shows number of acres appraised, character of land, value per acre, and nature of improvements.





OFFICE OF THE REGISTER AND RECEIVER  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

CORRESPONDENCE WITH COMMISSIONER. July 1908-Dec. 1942. 260 ft. 86

Letters received and copies of letters sent to Commissioner, General Land Office relating to land affairs administered by the field office. They document decisions relative to specific land cases and contain information pertinent to individual land claims, entries, and sales. Included are administrative instructions, requests for information, and regulations affecting and authorizing activities of the office. Arranged chronologically.

LAND ENTRY CORRESPONDENCE. 1906-1922. 55 ft. 87

During the time this series was created, correspondence relating to a specific case was filed by entry number and any succeeding related data was added as it was received. The result was the creation of a series of records that represented the case files of the period. Eventually these grew to the point where they couldn't be added to and a second set of files was created. This series consists of the two concurrent sets of correspondence relating to specific land entries. Material in the files documents the actions and proceedings that were taken in regards to individual entries and includes correspondence with the Commissioner, private firms and individuals, information relative to contest hearings and proceedings, extensions of time, patent applications, requests for information, and other matters arising from the entry and settlement of public lands by individuals.



Arranged by entry number (1-52492 w/gaps).

COMMISSIONERS LETTERS, INDIAN LAND ALLOTMENTS. ca. 1915-ca. 1920.  
15 ft.

88

Letters received from Commissioner, General Land Office relative to lands allotted to Indians. The letters document decisions and actions taken in regard to land allotment applications made mainly by members of the Papago and Navajo Tribes. Arranged serially by allotment number (8000-20476 w/gaps).

UNPATENTED SERIAL LAND ENTRY FILES. 1941-1961. 151 ft.

89

Closed, cancelled, withdrawn or suspended Land Use Case Files consisting of applications, correspondence, leases, permits, reports and legal papers which document entries made on public lands or the granting of mineral rights. These cases are for small tract leases, special use permits, homestead and desert land entries, small tract purchases, mineral entries and leases. Arranged serially by type of case. Index to cases maintained by office which originated the case.

REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. Oct. 1905-June 1908. 2 vols. 2 in.

90

Listing of entries made under Homestead Act of 1862. Shows name and residence of entryman, application number, date filed, description of land entered, number of acres claimed, fees and commissions paid, and final land office action. Arranged in application number



order (1-1309). Volume I contains Tucson entries 4634-5332, July 1903-Sept. 1905.

REGISTER OF FINAL HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATES. Sept. 1905-June 1908.  
1 vol.

91

Documents issuance of Final Homestead Certificates for land entered under Homestead Act of 1862. Shows when and to whom certificates were issued, lands entered, price paid per acre, original homestead entry number, and date patent was issued. Arranged in certificate number order (1-312). Contains Tucson entries 1001-1472 for period Jan. 1900-Sept. 1905.

HOMESTEAD CONTEST DOCKETS. 1901-1918. 7 vols. 3 ft.

92

Brief synopsis of hearings held to determine disposition of lands involved in contest actions. The entries show names of contestees, dates contest affidavits were filed, description of tracts involved, type of entry made, chronology of proceedings, and remarks relative to final decisions. Arranged by contest number (1-4000 w/gaps) and indexed within each volume by names of litigants.

REGISTER OF MINING LAND ENTERED. Oct. 1905-June 1908. 1 vol. 2 in.

93

Shows individual entries made on mineral lands with information relative to the date of filing, number of receipt issued, name of mine, district and county in which located, description of land claimed, purchase price, applicant's name, residence, and remarks





pertaining to the issuance of patent. Receipt number order (1-449) and indexed by name of mine.

REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR MINING PATENTS. Oct. 1905-June 1908.  
1 vol. 2 in.

94

Listing of applications for mining patents with the name and address of applicant, name of mine, description of land and other general information relating to the claim and issuance of the patent. Arranged by application number (1-377).

MINING RECORDS. Sept. 1863-Mar. 1881. 3 in.

95

Records relating to claims, locations, sale and operation of individual mines. Consist chiefly of affidavits and statements documenting entries, titles, transfers, sales, patents, and improvements. Included are District Mining Laws created by miners, for the purpose of governing mining operations within specified boundaries. Records arranged chronologically by type. Mining Laws are indexed by name of district.

ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTERED. Nov. 1905-June 1908. 1 vol.  
1/2 in.

96

Documents entries made under Desert Land Act of 1877. Entries show name and residence of entryman, when entry was made, tracts entered, number of acres claimed, and number of entry certificate. Arranged chronologically by certificate number (1-209). Volume con-



tains Tucson entries 2742-3321 for period Mar. 1896-July 1905.

**ABSTRACT OF FINAL DESERT LAND CERTIFICATES.** Nov. 1905-June 1908.  
1 vol. 1/2 in.

97

Documents final payment and issuance of Desert Land Certificates for entries made under Desert Land Act of 1877. Gives description of lands entered, name of entryman, quantity and price per acre, amount of final payment, number of final certificate, date of patent, and remarks relative to relinquishments and cancellations. Arranged in certificate number order (1-26). Contains Tucson entries 574-737, Aug. 1897-Aug. 1905.

**ABSTRACT OF PUBLIC LAND SOLD.** Nov. 1905-Feb. 1908. 1 vol. 1 in. 98

Documents public lands purchased by individuals, companies, and trustees. Shows name of purchaser, certificate number assigned, description of land purchased and amount, price per acre, date patent was issued, and act under which land was sold. Some entries relate to townsites purchased by Probate Judges acting in behalf of town occupants. Arranged in certificate number order (1-139). Contains Tucson entries 1113-1751, Jan. 1895-Sept. 1905.

**ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENTS.** Jan. 1907-Jan. 1908. 1 vol.  
1/2 in.

99

Listing of entries made, under pre-emption rights, on lands which were not offered at public sale. Gives name of entryman, des-





cription of land entered, date of settlement, number and date of statement filed, and information regarding cancellations, relinquishments, and patents. Arranged chronologically in numerical order (1-7). Records contained in series described by Inventory Entry 59.

REGISTER OF LOCATIONS MADE WITH VALENTINE AND WYANDOTTE SCRIP.  
1906-1907. 1 vol. 1/8 in.

100

Gives name of entryman, date of filing, detailed description of land entered, and other information relevant to entry. Numerical order...eight entries only (1-8). Contains Tucson Valentine and Half-Breed Scrip entries 1881-1893.

REGISTER OF APPOINTMENTS FOR FINAL PROOF HEARINGS. Oct. 1905-Aug.  
1908. 1 vol. 1/2 in.

101

Documents individual appointments made for the presentation of final proof of land claims before Territorial Courts. Entries show name of claimant, where, when and before whom proof will be made, descriptive data relative to the land claimed, type of entry, date of initial entry, and name of newspaper designated to publish hearing data. Chronological arrangement and indexed by name of entryman.

RECORD OF PATENTS DELIVERED. 1885-1910. 1 vol. 1 in.

102

This volume documents the issuance and delivery of patents to patentees. It gives the names of patentees, where and when delivery of patent was made, to whom sent, and general information regarding



the land being patented. Arranged by date patent delivered. Indexed by surname of patentee.

TRACT BOOKS. ca. 1918. 7 vols.

103

Contains series of entries and notations relating to sales and transfers of specific land titles. Gives legal description of lands involved; name of patentee; date of patent; acts under which land patented, relinquished, or sold; name of purchaser; and date of transaction. Arranged by township, range, district, and subdivisions thereunder. Books are for Phoenix, Tucson, and Florence districts.

INDIAN LAND ALLOTMENTS. 1913; 1921. 7 in.

104

Photostatic lists of allotments made under the Act of 1887 to Indians of the Gila and Colorado River Indian Reservations. Entries show allotment number, name and age of allottee, description of land allotted, and number of acres. Arranged in allotment number order (1-4869).

APPRAISAL REPORT OF ABANDONED MILITARY RESERVATION LAND. May 1910.  
1/2 in.

105

Appraisal report of Commissioners appointed to appraise land located at Camp Bowie, abandoned military reservation. Listing has description of lots, number of acres, remarks relating to character of land, appraised value per acre, and total appraised value of all lots. Arranged in lot number order by section.





FOREST LISTS. Dec. 1908-Dec. 1930. 2-1/2 ft.

106

Listings of National Forest Reserve lands subject to settlement and entry for agricultural purposes under the Homestead Acts. They describe lands open for entry, number of acres, locations, and names of individuals having entry preference rights under prior claims. Arranged chronologically and numbered from (1-931).

SALE OF LOTS, PARKER TOWNSITE. Nov. 1909-Oct. 1922. 2 in.

107

Under the Congressional Act of April 1908, certain lots located within the Colorado River Indian Reservation, Arizona were reserved and set apart for townsite purposes. These records document the public sale of lots within the townsite. They consist primarily of correspondence between the Commissioner, General Land Office, and the Register and Receiver, Phoenix, regarding procedures governing the public sale of the land and the reservation of right-of-ways. Included are some letters from the Commissioner, Indian Affairs and a detailed appraisal report of each lot within the townsite. Correspondence arranged chronologically. Appraisal report arranged by blocks and lot numbers thereunder.

RECORDS OF THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS. 1939-1943. 7 ft.

108

The Civilian Conservation Corps was established in 1937 for the purpose of providing employment and vocational training for unemployed youths. It performed public work in connection with the conservation





and development of natural resources. The records in this series represent those created by the Grazing Division during the period of CCC activities. They consist of individual histories of CCC Camps operated by the Grazing Division and relate to the organization, policy, procedure, work programs, camp activities, and improvement projects undertaken by individual camps. Included are various reports, personnel records, and information relative to camp construction and facilities. Arranged by individual folders for each camp and general administrative files relative to over-all activities.

CONSTRUCTION RECORDS OF MINE ROADS UNDER THE WAR EMERGENCY PLAN.  
1942-1945. 1 ft.

109

Records created as a result of road work performed by the Grazing Division of Bureau of Land Management for the Public Roads Administration under the Defense Highway Act of 1941. These records relate mainly to the construction and improvement of access roads to sources of raw materials. They consist of correspondence, relative to specific projects, exchanged between officials of the Public Roads Administration and those of the Grazing Division in the field, construction plans, maps and photographs, geological reports, route studies and cost estimates. Arranged by project number.



## LAND OFFICE ACTIVITIES IN CALIFORNIA

Land office functions began in California on July 22, 1847 when Colonel R. B. Mason, Military Governor of California, appointed a surveyor for upper California.

On December 3, 1849 the Commissioner of the General Land Office recommended to the Secretary of the Interior, the extension of the United States System of Surveys by establishing land districts with local offices to handle the sales of public lands in California.

On March 3, 1851 Congress passed an act which created a law for the adjustment of California claims and sanctioned the division of California into either two or three land districts. The bill further provided for the annexation or consolidation of land offices of adjacent territories and authority to shift land offices when compatible to the public interest.

During the period 1851-52, the settling of the Private Land Grants was begun and during the same period, a great deal of survey work was accomplished. Subdivisional surveys began early in 1852 and had progressed to such an extent that on December 4, the Land Commissioner recommended to the Secretary of Interior that sufficient progress had been made in the public surveys to warrant further extension of the present land system and establishment of land offices throughout the state.

In January 1853, the first two land districts in California were created — the northern with headquarters at Benicia and the





southern with headquarters in Los Angeles. In 1854-55, the land offices were increased to three with the addition of a California Upper District located at Marysville. The original districts were renamed Middle and Lower. The rapid population growth soon made necessary the creation of new districts closer to the population centers. On January 16, 1857, an office was established at Sacramento as headquarters of a newly formed district embracing seven counties. At the same time, the Benicia headquarters was moved to San Francisco.

A large portion of the subdivisional surveys of the Territory of Nevada were made under the supervision of the Surveyor General in San Francisco. In 1864, the Nevada Territory was attached to the Colorado District, but through the act of March 2, 1865, the territory was restored to the jurisdiction of California and remained so until 1866 when a separate surveying district was created in Nevada.

On April 26, 1865, by Presidential direction, the Los Angeles office for the southern portion of California was discontinued and attached to the San Francisco Land Office.

By the end of 1865, survey work had been completed on 780 lineal miles embracing 246,268 acres of public lands and 38,700 acres within special grants made by Congress to the State of California (the Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Grove areas). At this time, land offices were located at San Francisco, Marysville, Stockton, Visalia, and Eureka.



The provisions of the act of July 23, 1866 compelling claimants for land grants to come forward and ask for surveys greatly increased the work of the districts already established. Aside from land surveys, mineral surveys were active and nine mineral districts were established.

On June 12, 1869, by Executive Order, the Los Angeles office for the southern portion of California comprising the lower district was reopened. It supervised the sale and entry of vacant public lands within the boundaries of the district and supervised survey work of the Territory of Arizona. By 1870, the heavy workload of the office soon resulted in its being relieved of jurisdiction over activities of the Arizona Territory.

By 1899, the number of offices serving the needs of six land districts of California had increased to ten, and were located at San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Marysville, Eureka, Independence, Redding, Stockton, Susanville, and Visalia. The demand for land grant surveys was still heavy and an increased workload resulted from lands susceptible for cultivation.

On April 18, 1906, the Sacramento office was transferred to San Francisco and following the San Francisco fire, to Oakland, where it remained until reestablished in San Francisco.

During the year 1925, the offices at Eureka, Independence, Redding, Marysville, and Susanville were abolished. Their territories were consolidated with the remaining offices at Los Angeles, San



Francisco, Sacramento, and Visalia. In July 1931, these four offices were reduced to two, Los Angeles and Sacramento.

In 1946, the General Land Office was abolished and its functions absorbed by the newly created Bureau of Land Management. Under the reorganization, California Land Offices became a part of Region II (California and Nevada) and were managed by a Regional Administrator located in San Francisco.

In 1954, the regional plan was abolished and State Offices, under the control of an Area Headquarters were created. California, Oregon, and Washington comprised Area 1 and were under the direction of an Area Headquarters located in Portland, Oregon.

The area level was abolished in 1961 and the California State Office at Sacramento was placed directly under Bureau direction in Washington, D. C.

During these reorganizations, the district land offices, grazing offices and forestry offices remained under control of the State Office and were a part of the state field organization.





OFFICE OF THE REGISTER AND RECEIVER  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

This office was established in January 1853 and began operations in April of the same year. As a District Land Office, the office was responsible for providing information regarding unoccupied lands, furnishing plats, receiving and examining applications to enter lands, administering oaths, and issuing the certificates upon which land patents were based. Additionally, the office conducted hearings in contested cases, rendered decisions (subject to approval of the Commissioner) and maintained all records and papers relevant to land matters within its jurisdiction.

The officials who administered jointly the business of the office were known as the Register and the Receiver. They were appointed by the President of the United States but were under the direct supervision of the Commissioner, General Land Office, Washington, D. C. The Register was responsible for the administration and paperwork functions of the office; the Receiver was a fiscal officer who primarily collected monies earned from land sales and other services.

The first Register of the Los Angeles Office was H. P. Dorsey who opened and began the operations of this office. Initially, the office had jurisdiction over public lands in San Diego, Imperial, Riverside, and the Los Angeles counties; also the southern portion of Kern, Santa Barbara, and San Bernardino counties and practically all of Ventura County. It operated continuously in Los Angeles until



1365 when its functions were transferred to San Francisco.

In September 1869, the Los Angeles Office was reestablished serving the same district it had originally been assigned. In January of 1916, the southern section of the district comprising Imperial County and the eastern halves of San Diego and Riverside counties were separated from the Los Angeles District and designated as the "District Land Office, El Centro". In May 1925, the two offices were merged and Los Angeles was reassigned the El Centro district.

During 1946, coincidental with the reorganization of the General Land Office, the Registers were designated as "Managers" and the land office became a field component of the Bureau of Land Management.

In November 1961, the office made its first move from the Los Angeles area and was established in Riverside where it continues to operate.

LETTER COPY BOOK. Apr. 1353-July 1830. 2 vols. 4 in.

110

Handwritten copies of letters sent and received. These are primarily exchanges of information with the Commissioner and the U. S. Surveyor General, San Francisco, California. They relate to such matters as appointments of Registers and Receivers, opening of Los Angeles Land Office, decisions rendered in specific land cases and general information relating to the administration and management of the office. Included are copies of periodical reports, ad-





ministrative instructions and data relevant to the survey and sale of public lands. Arranged chronologically. Name and subject index within each volume.

LETTERS RECEIVED AND SENT. 1854-ca. 1897. 2 ft. 111

Letters received and copies of those sent to government officials, the general public, and business firms relative to land entries and other matters under the jurisdiction of the land office. These document primarily exchanges of information on matters resulting from individual entries. Arranged chronologically.

COMMISSIONER'S LETTERS RECEIVED. 1909-1928. 32 ft. 112

Letters and memorandums received from the Commissioner, General Land Office, documenting administrative guidance and decisions that were made in regard to land matters under the jurisdiction of the field office. Information in the letters relates to administration and operation of the office, decisions and instructions relative to individual land entries and copies of regulations affecting the sale and distribution of public lands. Arranged chronologically.

LETTERS OF APPLICATION AS CENSUS ENUMERATORS. Oct. 1879-1880. 3 in. 113

Requests for employment as Census Enumerators during 10th Census. Consists of applications and letters of recommendations, recommended plans for subdividing counties into districts and general



correspondence with the Supervisor of the Census. Arranged by month of receipt.

HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS. 1886-1895. 9 ft. 114

Individual applications made for the purpose of acquiring land for settlement and cultivation under the Homestead Act of 1862. Shows name of entryman, date of filing, and description of land applied for. Included are related affidavits and statements supporting the entry. The majority of these are for entries that were rejected due to prior claims. Unarranged.

REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. Sept. 1869-July 1891; Dec. 1891-June 1908. 4 vols. 1 ft. 115

Shows entries made under the Homestead Act of 1862. Gives name and residence of entryman, date and number of application description of land entered and information relative to the purchase price, fees, and commissions. Arranged by application number (1-11796).

REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD RECEIPTS. Sept. 1869-June 1906. 4 vols. 3 in. 116

Receivers' receipts issued for entries made under Homestead Act of 1862. Gives number of receipt, name of entryman, tracts purchased, quantity of land obtained, and amount paid. Listed by receipt number (1-11130).



NOTICES OF INTENTION TO MAKE FINAL PROOF. ca. 1833-1891. 11 ft. 117

Entryman's declaration of intention to prove residence, cultivation, and adherence to provisions of Homestead Act. Gives description of land, application number, designation of newspaper that will publish claim, name of witnesses, related statements and correspondence. Arranged chronologically.

REGISTER OF FINAL HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATES ISSUED. Oct. 1873-June 1906.  
4 vols. 8 in. 118

Shows name and address of entryman, date of issuance of final certificate, number, tracts entered, original application number, commissions paid, and rate paid per acre. Arranged in certificate number order (1-4605).

AFFIDAVITS AND NOTICE OF PUBLICATION. ca. 1885-1892. 2 ft. 119

From newspapers and entryman attesting to the publishing of "Intention to make final proof in support of claims". Includes correspondence and copies of the notices appearing in the newspaper. Unarranged.

ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1859-1884. 1 vol. 2 in. 120

Listing of applicants intending to claim and enter lands under the Pre-emption Act of 1841, Desert Land Act of 1877, Coal Land Act of 1873, Indian Allotment Act of 1887, Military Bounty Land Warrants, and locations made with Valentine Scrip. Gives name of applicant,





date of settlement, description of land, and date formal claim was filed. Arranged numerically by type of entry.

DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1863-ca. 1890. 14 ft. 121

Statements of intention to formally claim lands settled on under the Pre-emption Act of 1841. Statement shows name of entryman, description of land, and total number of acres being claimed. Included are statements and affidavits that support the claims. Unarranged.

REGISTER OF CASH RECEIPTS. Sept. 1869-June 1906. 3 vols. 6 in. 122

Listing of receipts issued for cash sales of public lands. Shows name of entryman, date and number of receipt, description and quantity of land bought, price per acre, and general data relative to the sale. Included are monthly recapitulation of cash sales that designate type of sales made, total acreage, and monies collected. Arranged by receipt number (1-6114).

REGISTER OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED FOR CASH SALES. Sept. 1869-June 1908. 3 vols. 6 in. 123

Contains dates of certificate and number, name of purchaser, description of land bought, rate paid per acre, authorized changes in entry, and date patent was received. Arranged by certificate number (1-6241).

UNPATENTED SERIAL LAND ENTRY FILES. 1912-1961. 691 ft. 124



Closed, cancelled, withdrawn or suspended Land Use Case Files consisting of applications, correspondence, leases, permits, reports and legal papers which document entries made on public lands or the granting of mineral rights. These cases are for small tract leases, special use permits, homestead and desert land entries, small tract purchases, mineral entries and leases. Arranged serially by type of case. Index to cases maintained by office which originated the case.

APPLICATIONS FOR DESERT LAND ENTRY. 1887-1893. 1 ft. 125

Declaration of intent to claim a tract of Desert Land under the Act of March 1877. Consists of individual applications with description of land to be entered, sworn affidavits and statements relative to the claim. Arranged chronologically.

ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. Feb. 1880-June 1908. 2 vols. 2 in. 126

Entries made under Desert Land Act of 1877. Shows date of entry, number of certificate, by whom entered, date of entry, description of tracts entered, price paid per acre, and remarks regarding issuance of final certificates and patents. Arranged by entry number (693-4973).

ABSTRACT OF FINAL DESERT LAND RECEIPTS. Feb. 1880-June 1906. 1 vol. 2 in. 127

Documents final payment for lands entered. Indicates name of





entryman, tract entered, purchase price, and general remarks relating to the entry. Receipt number order (1-255).

ABSTRACT OF FINAL DESERT LAND CERTIFICATES. Feb. 1880-June 1908.  
1 vol. 1 in.

128

Shows date and number of certificate, to whom issued, tract entered, purchase price, number of original declaration, and remarks relative to entry. Certificate number order (1-313).

APPLICATIONS FOR TIMBER-CULTURE LANDS. 1881-ca. 1892. 5 ft.

129

Individual applications to enter lands for the purpose of cultivating timber under the Act of 1878. Gives name of entryman and description of land entered. Included are affidavits relating to non-mineral character of land and other supporting statements and affidavits. Unarranged.

REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE ENTRIES. Jan. 1875-Sept. 1892. 2 vols.  
4 in.

130

Listing of entries made under Act of 1873. Contains name of applicant, number and date of application, description of land entered, and general information relating to the entry. Arranged by application number (1-3008).

REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE RECEIPTS. Jan. 1875-Sept. 1892. 2 vols.

131

Listing of receipts issued to entrymen making initial payment on



lands entered under the Timber-Culture Act of March 1873. Shows fees paid, receipt number and date issued, name of entryman, tracts entered, price per acre, and general remarks pertinent to the entry. Receipt number order (1-3008).

REGISTER OF FINAL TIMBER-CULTURE RECEIPTS. Aug. 1886-June 1905.  
1 vol. 1/2 in.

132

Documents issuance of final receipts for entries made on Timber-Culture lands. Gives number and date of receipt, name and residence of entryman, description of land, number of initial receipt, fees paid and general remarks relating to the entry. Receipt number order (1-150).

REGISTER OF FINAL TIMBER-CULTURE CERTIFICATES. Aug. 1886-Jan. 1895.  
1 vol. 1/2 in.

133

Indicates issuance of final certificates for Timber-Culture entries. Contains same information as preceding entry. Arranged in certificate number order (1-150).

REGISTER OF LIEU SELECTIONS ON FOREST RESERVES. Feb. 1898-June 1908.  
1 vol. 1/2 in.

134

Record of "in lieu of selections" made within Forest Reserves under Act of 1897. Gives date of filing, name of selector, description of tracts surrendered and tracts selected within the Reserve, number of selection, and name of Reserve entered upon. Arranged by date of filing. Indexed by name of selector.





REGISTER OF ENTRIES ON MINING LANDS. Aug. 1872-Jan. 1908. 2 vols.  
4 in. 135

Record of mineral entries made under Act of 1866. Shows name and area of claim, name of claimant, date of sale, purchase price, number of receipt and certificate, date of patent and other miscellaneous data relating to the entry. Arranged by receipt number (1-271).

REGISTER OF RECEIPTS FOR MINERAL LANDS. Aug. 1872-Aug. 1898. 1 vol.  
1-1/2 in. 136

Documents receipts issued for mineral lands sold. Gives name of claimant, name of claim, date sold, number of receipt, number of lot, description of land, purchase price, and date patent issued and number assigned. Receipt number order (1-162).

MINING CLAIMS. 1872-1901. 3 in. 137

Various documents relating exclusively to mining activities. Included are field notes, surveys, plats, affidavits, declaratory statements, certificates of location, copies of District Mining Laws, miscellaneous correspondence, and applications for patents. Records relate to quartz, gold, oil, coal, and gravel mines. Alphabetical order by name of mine.

MINERAL HEARINGS. 1873-1889. 6 in. 138

Briefs, affidavits, notices of hearings, and miscellaneous correspondence resulting from contested mineral claims. Chronological order.





REGISTER OF ADVERSE CLAIMS UNDER MINING LAWS. May 1879-Jan. 1908.  
1 vol. 3 in.

139

Indicates claims being initiated against land being used for mining purposes. Shows number of claim, date of filing, name of claimant, name of mine and description of land in controversy. Arranged by claim number (2-38).

MONTHLY ABSTRACT OF ENTRIES MADE BY MILITARY LAND WARRANTS. May 1863-Oct. 1901. 2 vols. 2 in.

140

Shows entries made by warrants issued under Act of September 1850 and March 1855. Gives number of warrant and date of issue, name of holder, description of land entered, and name of entryman. Arranged by receiver's number (1-71).

LEGAL DOCUMENTS. ca. 1875-1899. 7 in.

141

Supporting documents for land entries, sales, and transfers. Mainly sworn statements and affidavits but they include relinquishments of title, copies of citizenship and naturalization papers, copies of military discharges, amendments to entries, and powers of attorney. Arranged by type of documents.

AFFIDAVITS OF CONTEST. ca. 1883-1904. 6 ft.

142

Sworn notices declaring intention to contest rights of individual land owners who have abandoned their land or failed to comply with legal procedures. They indicate name of contestant, party against



whom action is being brought, name of witness, description of contested land, and date of contest. Partially arranged chronologically.

CONTESTED LAND CASES AND HEARINGS. 1860-1905. 3 ft. 143

Legal documents relating to contested and mineral cases tried in the Los Angeles U. S. District Court or before the U. S. Land Office. They consist of briefs of court proceedings, dispositions, sworn statements, testimony of claimants and witnesses, judgments, and other documents relevant to the case and court procedure. Arranged chronologically.

RECEIVER'S AND REGISTRAR'S DECISIONS. ca. 1887-1890. 3 in. 144

Copies of decisions rendered in contested land cases. Brief case synopsis, supporting opinions, and facts upon which decisions were made. Unarranged.

CONTEST DOCKET BOOK. 1903-1910. 1 vol. 2 in. 145

Registrar of contested land cases. Has names of litigants and attorneys, description of contested land, and synopsis of case proceeding. There is a name index in front of book. Entries arranged chronologically.

REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS BY INDIANS FOR LANDS OUTSIDE OF RESERVATION.  
June 1888-July 1891. 1 vol. 1 in. 146

Contains six entries only. Gives name of applicant, tribe,





tracts entered, and date of application. Arranged by application number.

REGISTER OF INDIAN ALLOTMENT APPLICATIONS. July 1891-June 1902.  
1 vol. 1 in.

147

Record of land allotments made under Indian Allotment Act of 1887. Shows date and number of application, name of applicant or head of family, tribal affiliation, description of land entered and area, and remarks relating to the issuance of patents. Arranged by application number (6-20).

SCHEDULES OF INDIAN ALLOTMENTS. 1897-1930. 1 ft.

148

Individual claims for tribal land under Indian Allotment Act of 1887. Shows land selections made on Pala, Temecula, Morango, Mission Creek, La Jolla, Rincon, Augustine, Sycuan, and Torres-Martinez Reservations. Gives name of allottee, land entered, patent number, and personal data regarding claimant. Includes two plats, Pala Indian Village, 1913; and the Temecula Reservation, 1893.

REGISTER OF LOCATIONS MADE WITH SUPREME COURT SCRIP. 1875-1881. 1  
vol. 1 in.

149

Locations made with scrip issued in satisfaction of Private Land Claims under Acts of 1860 and 1867. Shows number of scrip, when issued, acres authorized, in whose favor scrip was issued, date of location, tracts entered, and by whom located. Numerical order by entry (1-10).



MONTHLY ABSTRACT OF LANDS SOLD. Apr. 1865-May 1871. 1 vol. 1 in. 150

Contains locations made by Agricultural College Scrip on lands subject to private entry. Shows serial number of certificates, date of issuance, number of acres entered, by whom located, and a description of the land claimed. Arranged by receiver's number (1-86).

APPLICATIONS FOR RAILROAD LANDS. 1885-1893. 6 in. 151

Correspondence, affidavits, deeds and abstracts of title documenting individual requests for title and patent on lands originally granted to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. Arranged by surname of applicant.

RAILROAD SELECTION LISTS. ca. 1908-1923. 2 ft. 152

Granted and indemnity selections of public lands by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. Arranged in list number order.

RAILROAD PATENTS. 1894-1935. 2 ft. 153

Certified copies of approved land lists patented to the Southern Pacific Railroad in the Los Angeles Land District. Shows tracts chosen and patent numbers assigned. Chronological arrangement.

SWAMPLAND GRANTS. 1890-1928. 2 in. 154

Lists of swamp and overflowed lands selected as inuring to the State of California under the provisions of the Swampland Act of 1850.





Indicates sections chosen and total acreage. Chronological order.

STATE PRE-EMPTION GRANTS. Nov. 1869-Mar. 1876. 1/4 in. 155

Listing of lands selected by the State of California under the 500,000 acre "internal improvements" clause of the Pre-emption Act of 1841. Shows date of lists filed, tracts selected, and receipt by register. Arranged by list number order (1-7).

UNIVERSITY GRANTS. 1872-1884. 8 in. 156

Listing of lands applied for by the University of the State of California under provisions of the Morrill Land Grant Act. Consists of applications for land, listings of selections, and general correspondence. Arranged in list number order (1-9); correspondence in chronological order.

SCHOOL SELECTIONS LISTS. 1872-1939. 8 ft. 157

Clear lists and indemnity lists of lands selected for school purposes by the State of California. Shows tracts chosen in the Sacramento, San Francisco, Eureka, Visalia, El Centro, and Los Angeles Land Districts. Unarranged.

STATE PARK SELECTIONS AND CLEAR LISTS. 1871-1921; 1933-1938. 1-1/2 ft. 158

Approved lists of public domain lands applied for and granted to the State of California for use as part of the State Park System.





Arranged chronologically.

RECORD OF PATENTS DELIVERED. May 1887-Dec. 1910. 1 vol. 3 in. 159

Indicates to whom patents were issued, date of patent, where recorded, date and city of delivery, and to whom delivered. Arranged by date of patent and indexed by name.

TRACT BOOKS. ca. 1930. 6 vols. (Vols. 9, 30, 33, 34, 37; 1 unnumbered). 2 ft. 160

Documents transfer transactions regarding individual tracts of land. Shows tracts of land within various townships based on San Bernardino Meridian. Indicates date specific lots sold, name of purchaser, to whom patented, date of patent, and subsequent transfer actions for each lot or tract. Entries arranged within each volume by township and lot number thereunder.

ATTORNEYS APPLICATIONS. 1887-1935. 2 ft. 161

For permission to practice before U. S. Land Office. Contains correspondence, affidavits, and related oaths. Arranged by first letter of surname.

CANCELLATION RECORD. 1912-1935. 1 vol. 1 in. 162

Shows number of acres of public land entered and relinquished in various counties of Los Angeles District. Arranged chronologically by county.



Records relating to various water and irrigation companies. Most of them pertain to the Otay Water Company, San Diego, California (1892-1895) and the Palo Verde Mutual Water Company, Oxnard, California (1916-1919). The records include exchanges of correspondence between the Register, Los Angeles, and the Commissioner, Washington, D. C. pertaining to water rights requested by the companies, affidavits of organization, Articles of Incorporation, applications for reservoir sites and rights of way. Four maps of the San Miguel Reservoir, San Diego County are a part of the records.





## APPENDIX I

### KEY FILING SYMBOLS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

A - ADMINISTRATIVE  
B - PATENTS  
C - HOMESTEAD  
D - MAIL & FILES  
E - SURVEYING  
F - RIGHTS-OF-WAY  
G - PREEMPTION  
H - CONTEST  
K - SWAMP-LANDS & INDIAN  
L - DRAFTING  
M - ACCOUNTS  
N - MINERALS  
O - POSTING AND STATUS  
FS - (Old "P") - SPECIAL SERVICES  
R - FORESTRY



## APPENDIX II

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Acquired Lands	Lands in Federal ownership which are not public lands, having been obtained by purchase, condemnation, gift, or by exchange for other lands or timber resources in Government possession.
Adjudication	Legal processing of applications, entries, claims, etc., to assure full compliance with the public land laws and regulations.
Application	A formal request for rights in, or eventual title to, public lands or resources.
Cadastral Survey	The establishment of land boundaries and their identification on the ground by monuments or marks and identification in the records by field notes and plats.
Classification	Designation of public lands as being valuable or suitable for specific purposes, uses, or resources.
Contest	Formal proceedings against a filing, claim, or entry on charges that it does not comply with the requirements of the public land laws.
Disposal	A transaction which leads to the transfer of title to public lands from the Federal Government.
Desert Land Act	Authorized disposition of 640-acre tract of arid public lands at \$1.25 an acre to homesteaders upon proof of reclamation of lands by irrigation.
Entry	Taking possession of lands by entering and residing on them or making recognized claims for them.
Entryman	One who enters public lands with the intent of securing an allotment of land or resource rights.



Fees and Commissions	Payment in the nature of service charges required by law in connection with applications and entries.
Final Certificate	Certification that entryman had fulfilled all legal requirements for obtaining a patent to a described piece of land, and that he was entitled to a patent.
Field Notes	The written record of a cadastral survey which gives, among other things, the courses and lengths of the boundaries, the location and description of monuments, and a general description of lands covered by the survey.
Homestead	Act which authorized unrestricted settlement on public lands to all settlers, providing residence, cultivation and improvements could be proven. Generally, entry made on 160-acre tract.
Indian Allotments	Granting of small tracts to individual Indians from tribal land areas.
Land Grant Institutions	State vocational colleges teaching agriculture or mechanical arts were granted public lands in proportion to the state's representation in Congress. The lands were usually sold or leased to finance the college or university.
Lieu Selection	A selection in exchange for which the applicant relinquishes his rights or title to other lands which he for some reason cannot or does not wish to acquire or hold.
Military Land Bounties	Warrants issued to military personnel as a gratuity for military or naval services. These warrants could be located on any vacant or unreserved public land subject to sale.
Mineral Lands	Lands containing mineral deposits, both surveyed or unsurveyed, open to exploration and purchase.
Original Public Domain	All lands, regardless of whether they are





	<p>still in Federal ownership or not, which were obtained by cession from the Thirteen Original States, by the Louisiana Purchase, by the cession from Spain, by the occupation of the Oregon Territory, by the Mexican Cession, by the purchase from Texas, by the Gadsden Purchase, and by the purchase of Alaska.</p>
Patent	<p>A document which conveys to the patentee legal title to public lands.</p>
Plat, survey	<p>A drawing which shows the boundaries, subdivisions, acreage, and often topography, improvements, and other features of an area included in a cadastral survey.</p>
Pre-emption Rights & Entry	<p>Preferential rights accorded to settlers and squatters on public lands. Act of 1841 granted persons settling on unsurveyed lands the right to formalize their claims and purchase lands upon which they resided.</p>
Private Land Claims	<p>Claims for title to lands obtained from former sovereigns. U. S. recognized claims as valid and binding and under various Congressional acts, the claims were reviewed and adjudicated to establish legal title.</p>
Public Domain Lands or Public Lands	<p>Original public domain lands which have never left Federal ownership; lands in Federal ownership which were obtained in exchange for public lands or for timber on such lands; and original public domain lands which have reverted to Federal ownership as a result of public land law.</p>
Public Land States	<p>The States which were created out of the original public domain and the State of Alaska.</p>
Railroad Grants	<p>Public land granted to railroads for construction, operation and maintenance of railroads and telegraph systems. Usually were alternate sections to a depth of 10 miles on each side of line plus additional lands for buildings, stations, etc.</p>



Rectangular System of Surveys	The system of cadastral surveys which divides lands into townships, sections, and sectional subdivisions.
Right-of-Way	A permit or an easement which authorizes the use of public lands for certain specified purposes, commonly for pipelines, roads, and telephone lines.
Scrip	Unused warrants that were exchanged for Scrip, which in turn could be used to pay for public lands.
State Grants	Public lands granted to states for use or support of schools, universities, penitentiaries, hospitals, etc. Also included lands used for internal improvements, transportation or navigation.
Swamp-land Grant	A grant of swamp or overflowed public lands made to a state to aid in their reclamation.
Town Sites	Public lands acquired for town site purposes under Acts of 1963 and 1964.
Tract-books	The central records which show the status of the original public domain.
Warrants	Permits allowing applicant to "locate" a specified number of acres on the public domain. Usually issued to war veterans who could sell warrants or exchange it for Scrip.
Withdrawal	An action which restricts the disposal of public lands and which holds them for specific public purposes; and public lands which have been dedicated to such public purposes.





# APPENDIX III

## LIST OF LAND LAWS UNDER WHICH MOST ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA ENTRIES WERE MADE

<u>CLASS OF ENTRIES</u>	<u>STATUTORY REFERENCE</u>	<u>DATE OF ACT</u>
Warrants	2 Stat. 236	Act of March 3, 1803
Warrants	2 Stat. 378	Act of April 15, 1806
Warrants	2 Stat. 669	Act of December 24, 1811
Warrants	2 Stat. 672	Act of January 11, 1812
Cash Entries	3 Stat. 566	Act of April 21, 1820
∞ 2 Military Bounty Land Scrip	4 Stat. 422	Act of May 30, 1830
Military Bounty Land Scrip	4 Stat. 665	Act of March 2, 1833
Military Bounty Land Scrip	4 Stat. 770	Act of March 3, 1835
Warrants	5 Stat. 497	Act of July 27, 1842
Warrants	9 Stat. 125	Act of February 11, 1847
Donation Act	9 Stat. 496	Act of September 27, 1850
Warrants	9 Stat. 520	Act of September 28, 1850
Warrants	10 Stat. 4	Act of March 22, 1852
Military Bounty Land Scrip	10 Stat. 143	Act of August 31, 1852



CLASS OF ENTRIESDATE OF ACTSTATUTORY REFERENCE

Graduation Act	10 Stat. 574	Act of August 4, 1854
Supreme Court Scrip	12 Stat. 85	Act of June 22, 1860
Homestead Entries	12 Stat. 392	Act of May 20, 1862
Agricultural College Scrip	12 Stat. 503	Act of July 2, 1862
Town Sites	13 Stat. 343	Act of July 1, 1864
Mineral Entries	14 Stat. 251	Act of July 26, 1866
Supreme Court Scrip	14 Stat. 544	Act of March 2, 1867
Timber-Culture Entries	17 Stat. 605	Act of March 3, 1873
Coal Cash Entries	17 Stat. 607	Act of March 3, 1873
Desert Land Entries	19 Stat. 377	Act of March 3, 1877
Stone Land Entries	20 Stat. 89	Act of June 3, 1878
Indian Allotments	24 Stat. 383	Act of February 8, 1887
Forest Reserve Lieu Selections	30 Stat. 34	Act of June 4, 1897





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